

Medical Foster Home Environment

Provides the veteran:

- Private /semi-private room
- Variety of relationships
- 24 hour supervision
- Flexibility in daily routine
- Choice
- Permanent home
- Safeguards against abuse
- Signed agreement between medical foster home caregiver and veteran, family or legal representative
- Pets



Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care
Home and Community Based Programs
Patient Care Services

MFH Nationwide Implementation



The VA has been rapidly implementing Medical Foster Home, growing from three sites in 2008 to 35 sites in 21 states currently, with an additional 33 sites beginning implementation.

Quality and safety are paramount, structured into the expansion through intensive training in Medical Foster Home implementation, continuous mentoring, standardized policies, guidance on caregiver selection, and frequent home visits for oversight and care.

The Boise VAMC is beginning Medical Foster Home implementation in Ada and Canyon Counties.

*For additional information, contact the
Boise Veterans Affairs Medical Foster Home
Coordinator:*

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A New, Dynamic Alternative to Long-term Care



Medical Foster Home



What is a Medical Foster Home?

Medical Foster Home is a VA innovation that:

- Provides personal care in a private home for certain veterans with complex chronic disabling diseases who meet nursing home level of care.
- Maintains the veterans in a safe and therapeutic environment improving their quality of life.
- Alternative to living alone with inadequate social support or entering a nursing home.
- Ensures that no more than three residents receive care in the home.
- Gives veterans the option to remain in a family setting.
- Provides longitudinal health care in a home setting to include end-of-life care.
- Offers personalized and customized care in the community.
- Meets the increasing demand for long term care services through care in a non-institutional setting.
- Offers access to Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) services.
- Facilitates best use of resources

Medical Foster Home Program Criteria

Homes must:

- Be owned by the caregiver, and the location of the home must be the caregiver's actual place of residence.
- Be located, designed, equipped, and maintained to ensure a home-like environment and to provide safe care and supervision for all residents.
- Be inspected by a VA multi-disciplinary team including a VA Safety Officer.
- Comply with all state and local licensure requirements and regulations, including construction, fire, maintenance, and sanitation.
- Meet the applicable provisions of the most current edition of the national Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Life Safety Code.



Caregivers must:

- Complete an application and participate in an interview with the Medical Foster Home Program Coordinator and other staff as needed, be financially stable, and be at least 21 years of age.
- Have formal or informal experience in patient care.
- Provide at least three personal and work related references.
- Be physically able to provide the needed care, and have a written backup plan if they become incapacitated including relief persons.
- Be able to communicate with the Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) health care team any significant changes in the veteran's normal appearance, behavior or state of health, and be willing to accept, participate and follow the veteran's treatment plan.
- Ensure a congenial and homelike atmosphere within the residence.

